

[DOCUMENT NAME] SPECIFICATION

[TITLE OF THE INVENTION] MOBILE DEVICE AND RADIO

INTERFACE ARRANGEMENT METHOD

[APPLICABLE FIELD IN THE INDUSTRY]

5 [0001]

The present invention relates to a mobile device and a method of arranging wireless interfaces in mobile telecommunications employing a ground base station, and more particularly, to a technology of arranging wireless
10 interfaces such as antennas.

[BACKGROUND ART]

[0002]

In the mobile telecommunications, it comes into question that the mobile device becomes uncommunicable
15 with the base station due to an obstacle etc. on a wireless transmission path. In particular, with the technique employing the ground base station, there is a limit to height of a location for installing the base station, whereby it is difficult to cover a service region
20 so that such a blind region is not generated. In the prior art, this problem is solved, for example, by newly mounting a small-scale wireless area in the vicinity of the blind region. As a merit of mounting the small wireless area is listed an improvement in an efficiency of
25 utilizing a frequency, a stabilization of

transmission/reception environments at the time of standing still, or the like in addition to a countermeasure to the blind region.

[0003]

5 Further, as the technology of preventing communication in the vicinity of the blind region from being interrupted, the technology has also been disclosed of laying down, for example, leakage cables on both sides of the location where vehicles etc. pass through so that one part of the
10 zone is overlapped for the purpose of eliminating the blind region, thereby to enable the antenna mounted on the vehicle etc. to receive a radio wave from one of the leakage cables (for example, Patent document 1 and Patent document 2).

15 [0004]

[Patent document 1]

JP-P1994-237194A

[Patent document 2]

JP-P2003-174398A

20 **[DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION]**

[PROBLEMS TO BE SOLVED BY THE INVENTION]

[0005]

It is clear from the foregoing that optimum size of the wireless area differs depending upon the purpose of
25 the system; however, as a rule, the large wireless area is

employed in a case of attaching importance to a fast-movement correspondence. For example, in a leakage coaxial system specialized for a rapid transit railway, ground station interfaces are distributed and installed on a railway line, and using a repeater enables the wireless area length to be extended up to several tens of kilometers. Equalizing this interval with a distance between stations of a bullet train allows a frequency of a hand-over process to be suppressed at a low level even though the hand-over process is performed at the time that the train stops at a station, or while it moves at a high speed.

[0006]

However, with the technology of introducing small wireless areas in the whole region, out of the foregoing prior arts, the number of the base station a unit area augments, which gives rise to the demerit that the installation cost rises. In addition hereto, inevitably, an overlap of the area is also lessened, whereby the hand-over process at the moment of a terminal's moving has to be performed at a high speed and at a high frequency, which causes the operational cost as well to rise. Further, the problem that the frequency utilization efficiency is remarkably low due to size of the wireless area, in particular, in a case where the train interval is short

cannot be solved.

[0007]

Further, the technology as well demonstrated by the patent document 1 and the patent document 2, which can prevent communication at the vicinity of the blind region from being interrupted, cannot solve the problem that the frequency utilization efficiency is remarkably low due to size of the wireless area, in particular, in a case where the train interval is short.

10 [0008]

Thereupon, the present invention has been accomplished in consideration of the above-mentioned problems, and an object thereof lies in solving the above-mentioned problems by providing a technology that enables the interval of the base station, which is broader than the conventional one, to be employed, yet both of the speed and the frequency of the hand-over process to be lowered, and in addition hereto, the bandwidth utilization efficiency, which is higher as compared with that of the conventional example, to be realized.

[MEANS TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM]

[0009]

The first invention for solving the above-mentioned problems, which is a mobile device having a wireless antenna in a wireless communication network having a

plurality of base stations, is characterized in including:

two or more antennas installed separately at an extent
that the base station of which radio wave intensity
becomes maximum differs antenna by antenna in a case where
5 the mobile device has stood still in the vicinity of a
boundary of wireless areas; and

a communication means for simultaneously utilizing the
two or more antennas, thereby to simultaneously make
communication with a plurality of the base stations.

10 [0010]

The second invention for solving the above-mentioned
problems, which is a mobile device having a wireless
antenna in a wireless communication network having a
plurality of base stations, is characterized in including:

15 two or more antennas installed separately at an extent
that the base station of which a communication quality
becomes most excellent differs antenna by antenna in a
case where the mobile device has stood still in the
vicinity of a boundary of wireless areas; and

20 a communication means for simultaneously utilizing the
two or more antennas, thereby to simultaneously make
communication with a plurality of the base stations.

[0011]

The third invention for solving the above-mentioned
25 problems, which is a mobile device having a wireless

antenna in a wireless communication network having a plurality of base stations, is characterized in including:

two or more antennas installed separately at an extent that the base station of which a communication quality
5 becomes most excellent differs antenna by antenna in a case where the mobile device has stood still in the vicinity of a boundary of wireless areas;

two or more transmission/reception means mounted responding to each of the antennas; and

10 a communication means for simultaneously utilizing the two or more antennas and the two or more transmission/reception means, thereby to simultaneously make communication with a plurality of the base stations.

[0012]

15 The fourth invention for solving the above-mentioned problems is characterized in, in one of the above-mentioned first to third inventions, including the means for:

detecting a transmission/reception state of each
20 antenna; and

performing a hand-over process based upon the transmission/reception state of each of the antennas.

[0013]

The fifth invention for solving the above-mentioned
25 problems is characterized in that, in one of the above-

mentioned first to fourth inventions, the mobile device is a vehicle.

[0014]

The sixth invention for solving the above-mentioned
5 problems is characterized that, in one of the above-mentioned first to fourth inventions, the mobile device is a train.

[0015]

The seventh invention for solving the above-mentioned
10 problem is characterized that, in one of the above-mentioned first to fourth inventions, the mobile device is a ship.

[0016]

The eighth invention for solving the above-mentioned
15 problems is characterized in, in one of the above-mentioned first to seventh inventions, raising a communication reliability by, in a case where a set of base stations with which communication is possible via the antenna differ antenna by antenna, making communication
20 with respective separate base stations.

[0017]

The ninth invention for solving the above-mentioned problems, which is a method of arranging wireless interfaces, is characterized in including the steps of, in
25 order to simultaneously make communication with a

plurality of base stations, arranging two or more antennas separately at an extent that the base station of which radio wave intensity becomes maximum differs antenna by antenna in a case where a mobile device has stood still in
5 the vicinity of a boundary of wireless areas.

[0018]

The tenth invention for solving the above-mentioned problems, which is a method of arranging wireless interfaces, is characterized in including the steps of:
10 arranging two or more antennas separately at an extent that the base station of which a communication quality becomes most excellent differs antenna by antenna in a case where a mobile device has stood still in the vicinity of a boundary of wireless areas; mounting two or more
15 transmission/reception means correspondingly to each antenna; and arranging wireless interfaces so that the two or more antennas and the two or more transmission/reception means are simultaneously utilized, thereby to simultaneously make communication with a
20 plurality of the base stations.

[0019]

The eleventh invention for solving the above-mentioned problems, which is a hand-over method of mobile telecommunications, is characterized in including the
25 steps of: detecting a transmission/reception state of two

or more antennas mounted separately on a mobile body at an extent that a base station of which radio wave intensity becomes maximum differs antenna by antenna in a case where the mobile body has stood still in the vicinity of a
5 boundary of wireless areas; and performing a hand-over process to the base station of the antenna where the radio wave intensity becomes strong with movement.

[0020]

The twelfth invention for solving the above-mentioned
10 problems, which is a hand-over method of mobile telecommunications, is characterized in including the steps of: detecting a transmission/reception state of two or more antennas mounted separately on a mobile body at an extent that a base station of which a communication
15 quality becomes most excellent differs antenna by antenna in a case where the mobile body has stood still in the vicinity of a boundary of wireless areas; and performing a hand-over process to the base station of the antenna where the radio wave intensity becomes strong with movement.

20 **[EFFECTS OF THE INVENTION]**

[0021]

The present invention has the effect that the communication can be continued so long as all of the distributed wireless interfaces such as the antennas do
25 not enter the blind region.

[0022]

Further, the present invention makes it possible to lower both of the speed and the frequency of the hand-over process that are required as compared with that of the
5 conventional example in a system having the wireless area that is sized at an extent that the mobile body length is not negligible.

[0023]

Further, the present invention makes it possible to
10 employ the interval of the base station on the track that is broader as compared with that of the conventional example.

[0024]

In addition hereto, the present invention makes it
15 possible to realize the bandwidth utilization efficiency that is higher as compared with that of the conventional example in a system employing the distribution-type wireless interfaces.

[BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS]

20 [0025]

[Fig. 1] Fig. 1 is a view illustrating a configuration of an embodiment 1.

[Fig. 2] Fig. 2 is a view illustrating a first wireless area arrangement example of the embodiment 1.

25 [Fig. 3] Fig. 3 is a view illustrating a hand-over

method in the embodiment 1.

[Fig. 4] Fig. 4 is a view illustrating a method of selecting a hand-over destination in the embodiment 1.

[Fig. 5] Fig. 5 is a view illustrating a method of
5 avoiding the blind region in the embodiment 1.

[Fig. 6] Fig. 6 is a view illustrating a second wireless area arrangement example of the embodiment 1.

[Fig. 7] Fig. 7 is a view illustrating a configuration of an embodiment 2.

10 [Fig. 8] Fig. 8 is a view illustrating a configuration in the mobile body side and a first wireless area arrangement example of an embodiment 3.

[Fig. 9] Fig. 9 is a view illustrating a second wireless area arrangement example of the embodiment 3.

15 [Fig. 10] Fig. 10 is a view illustrating a configuration in the mobile device side and an apparatus arrangement example on the track of an embodiment 4.

[DESCRIPTION OF NUMERALS]

[0026]

20	10	mobile body
	11	wireless area
	12	blind region
	13	track
	100	wireless antenna
25	101	transmitter/receiver

- 102 ground base station
- 110 distribution-type wireless interface
- 112 ground station on a track
- 300 multiplexing means
- 5 400 transmission/reception section

[BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION]

[0027]

In the present invention, a plurality of the antennas are distributed and arranged on the mobile device (mobile
10 body) in a moving direction of the mobile body. It is assumed that the antennas at both ends are away from each other at an extent that the distance between them is not negligible as compared with the interval of the wireless base station. Herein, the so-called extent of being not
15 negligible signifies the extent that the base station of which the reception power becomes maximum differs for each of the antennas at both ends at the time that the mobile body is at a standstill in the vicinity of the boundary of two wireless areas, facing in the direction of the line
20 connecting two base stations, thereby enabling the base station to be stably recognized. Assuming such a configuration enables the radio wave to be stably received from a plurality of the base stations.

[0028]

25 Hereinafter, specific embodiments will be explained.

Additionally, in the following embodiments, the train is taken as an example of the mobile device for explanation; however, for example, the vehicle such as a car, a ship, or the like is also acceptable.

5 **[Embodiment 1]**

 [0029]

 The embodiment 1 of the present invention will be explained.

 [0030]

10 Fig. 1 is a view of a package configuration in the mobile body side of the embodiment 1 of the present invention. In this embodiment, a transmitter/receiver 101 on a mobile body 10 utilizes a plurality of antennas 100. It is assumed that a plurality of the antennas 100 are
15 distributed and arranged in the moving direction of the mobile body, and the antennas at both ends are away from each other at an extent that the distance between them is not negligible as compared with the interval of the wireless base station. Herein, the so-called extent of
20 being not negligible signifies the extent that the base station of which the reception power becomes maximum differs for each of the antennas at both ends at the time that the mobile body is at a standstill in the vicinity of the boundary of two wireless areas, facing in the
25 direction of the line connecting two base stations,

thereby enabling the base station to be stably recognized.

[0031]

The state that the mobile body of this configuration is at a standstill in the boundary of the wireless areas is shown in Fig. 2. 11-1 and 11-2 are wireless areas that base stations 102-1 and 102-2 provide, respectively. In the arrangement of Fig. 2, for example, when the antennas are located locally in the center of the mobile body, the radio waves from the base station 102-1 and 102-2 become almost identical in intensity. In such a state, for example, in a W-CDMA network, a base-station diversity of transmitting the identical signal from both base stations is carried out, thereby, allowing a communication stability to be secured.

15 [0032]

In the configuration of the present invention, the antennas 100-1 and 100-2, which are connected to the identical transmitter/receiver, can put the base-station diversity into practical use likewise; however the communication stabilization effect that is larger as compared with the case that the antennas are located locally in the center can be expected because the radio wave from the base station 102-1 is stronger in 100-1 than in the center, and the radio wave from the base station 102-2 is stronger in 100-2 than in the center,

respectively.

[0033]

Next, an operation at the time of movement of this embodiment will be explained.

5 [0034]

The state that the mobile body 10 of the configuration of Fig. 1 is moving in the vicinity of the boundary of the wireless areas 11-1 and 11-2 is shown in Fig. 3. In the arrangement of Fig. 3, the antenna 100-2 is located in the
10 region in which the wireless area 11-1 and the wireless area 11-2 are overlapped, so it is necessary to complete the hand-over process during the time that the antenna is located in this region in the wireless terminal having the general-purpose locally-located antenna attached.

15 [0035]

However, in the present invention, when the antenna 100-2 goes beyond the overlap region and enters the range of only 11-2, the state of Fig. 2 is reached, and using both of the antennas 100-1 and 100-2 enables communication
20 with both of the wireless areas 11-1 and 11-2 to be continued.

[0036]

Accordingly, the present invention enables the time, which is longer as compared with that of the conventional
25 example, to be employed for the hand-over process, which

is expected to have an effect upon the communication stabilization during fast movement.

[0037]

The state at the time of movement in the other
5 environment is shown in Fig. 4. In the arrangement of Fig. 4, a third wireless area 11-3 is added to the arrangement of Fig. 3. The antenna 100-2 on the mobile body 10 in Fig. 4 can make communication via any of wireless areas 11-1, 11-2, and 11-3.

10 [0038]

Accordingly, in a case of having made communication via the wireless area 11-1 until then, the wireless area 11-2 or the wireless area 11-3 is thinkable as the hand-over destination. If the antennas are locally located only
15 in the vicinity of the location of 100-2, the mobile body 10 has to decide to shift to any of 11-2 and 11-3 from a viewpoint of the radio wave intensity etc. before escaping from the wireless area 11-1. At its time point, if the radio wave is stronger in the wireless area 11-3, it
20 follows that the mobile body 10 shifts to 11-3.

[0039]

However, in the arrangement of Fig. 4, the wireless area 11-3 is short in length in the moving direction of the mobile body 10, and the time that it can stay in the
25 wireless area 11-3 in the case of continuing to move in

the identical direction is shorter as compared with the case of the wireless area 11-2. In the present invention, it is enough to make this decision until the antenna 100-1 escapes from the wireless area 11-1.

5 [0040]

Accordingly, with the case of the arrangement of Fig. 4, the decision of the movement destination can be postponed until it becomes clear as the antenna 100-2 moves that the radio wave intensity becomes stronger in
10 the wireless area 11-2 with movement in the moving direction, which makes it possible to select the wireless area 11-2 where a longer stay can be expected as the movement destination. That is, the hand-over frequency can be lowered.

15 [0041]

In Fig. 5, the state that the mobile body 10 moving within the wireless area 11 is passing through a blind region 12 of which the size is not negligible as against the wireless area diameter is shown. The blind area 12,
20 which is geographically, for example, in the wireless area 11, is the region that the radio wave from the base station 102 cannot reach, and, for example, the tunnel is equivalent hereto. When the antennas are locally located, the communication becomes impossible during the time that
25 its antenna escapes from the blind region since entering

it. In the present invention, even though the antenna 100-2 is located within the blind region 12, if the antenna 100-1 is located beyond the blind region simultaneously, the communication can be continued.

5 [0042]

As apparent from the forgoing, the present invention enables the effective blank space of the wireless area to be lessened by utilizing size of the mobile body. On the contrary, by utilizing this fact, the interval of the base station necessary for covering the wireless service region, which is broader, can be employed in a case where the mobile body moves on the expected track like the train. For example, as shown in Fig. 6, it follows that, for the mobile body, there exists no point on the track in which communication is impossible even though the service areas of the base stations are away from each other by the portion of the mobile body length. This demonstrates that employing the preset invention enables the cost as well for laying down the base station to be reduced as compared with the conventional mobile body wireless system in which the service area of each base station has to be overlapped at any time in order to consecutively cover the service regions.

[Embodiment 2]

25 [0043]

The embodiment 2 of the present invention will be explained.

[0044]

In the embodiment 2, a transmission/reception section
5 400 that corresponds to each of the antennas
distributed/arranged on the mobile body in the moving
direction is installed. A configuration in the mobile body
side is shown in Fig. 7.

[0045]

10 At the time of receiving data, the
transmission/reception section 400 modulates a radio wave
signal that the antenna 100 received, and sends it to a
multiplexing section 300 as a base band signal. In the
transmission, on the contrary, the multiplexing section
15 divides the data, and transmits them from a plurality of
the transmission/reception sections 400. In this
embodiment, each transmission/reception section carries
out the transmission/reception in a second layer including
the hand-over process independently. The multiplexing
20 section 300 multiplexes the data from each
transmission/reception section 400, and assumes it to be a
flow in a third layer. The multiplexing section 300, which
grasps the communication state of each
transmission/reception section 400, can minimize an
25 influence upon a throughput of the multiplexing section

300 in case where the communication state of a specific transmission/reception section 400 goes low due to a lack in a wireless resource, entering the blind region, and an failure in the hand-over process, for example, by giving
5 priority to the transmission/reception of the data via the other transmission/reception section 400.

[0046]

In this embodiment, it is assumed that the distance between the antennas at the both ends of the
10 transmission/reception section 400 is large at an extent that it is not negligible as compared with the wireless area diameter, whereby, as a rule, it is thought that the base station of which the reception power becomes maximum in each of the transmission/reception sections 400 at both
15 ends differs, and if the base station with which communication is made differs, as a rule, the utilization situation of the wireless resource and the direction in which the reception should be made differ respectively, which can lower the possibility that all of the
20 transmission/reception sections 400 fall into the uncommunicable state as compared with the case that the transmission/reception sections are locally located.

[0047]

Further, similarly to the embodiment 1, in designing
25 the base station arrangement, the interval of the base

station can be enlarged because there is no necessity for overlapping the wireless area in a case of premising the mobile body on the track.

[Embodiment 3]

5 [0048]

An embodiment 3 of the present invention will be explained.

[0049]

10 In the embodiment 3, similarly to the foregoing
embodiments, the wireless antennas are
distributed/arranged on the mobile body; however the
distance between the antennas at the both ends is larger
than a radius of the wireless service area, and the
distance between the neighboring antennas on the mobile
15 body is equal to or less than the wireless service area
diameter or so. A base station arrangement and a
configuration of the mobile body in this case are shown in
Fig. 8. In the base station arrangement of Fig. 8,
antennas 100 on the mobile body 10 are separately located
20 in the ranges of respective wireless areas 11-1 to 11-4.

[0050]

This enables the mobile body 10 to make communication
with the base stations 102-1 to 102-4 in parallel, and an
expansion of the wireless bandwidth owing to fining a cell
25 to be put into practical use to the maximum.

[0051]

With the identical configuration in the mobile body side, an example of the base station arrangement in which the wireless areas are sparsely located is shown in Fig. 9.

5 In the arrangement of Fig. 9, the diameter of each of the wireless areas 11-1 to 11-3 is one-fourth or so of the length of the mobile body 10; however no blind region is generated for the mobile body because at least one of the wireless antennas 100-1 to 100-4 is located in any

10 wireless area range even though the mobile body is located at any location on a track 13. The merit of this configuration lies in that lessening the wireless area diameter enables an influence of fading to be alleviated, and simultaneously therewith, in that the cost for laying

15 down the base station can be restricted at the same level as that of the case of having selected a larger wireless area diameter. Further, this configuration is effective in the case of employing a DSRC that originally premises a small cell diameter or the like for the lengthy mobile

20 body.

[Embodiment 4]

[0052]

An embodiment 4 of the present invention will be explained.

25 [0053]

In the embodiment 4, wireless interfaces of a continuous distribution type are attached onto the mobile body. A configuration example is shown in Fig. 10. As an example of the wireless interface of a continuous
5 distribution type, a train telephone of the Shinkansen and a leakage coaxial cable, which is employed for data communication for administration, are listed.

[0054]

In the configuration of Fig. 10, the wireless
10 interface of a continuous distribution type radiates the radio wave having the intensity such that it reaches the wireless area 11, and the ground stations 112-1 to 112-3 are placed on the track 13. The distance between the ground base stations is decided so that any of the ground
15 stations is located within the wireless area 11 even though the mobile body is located at any ordinate on the track. Accordingly, the mobile body becomes communicable with the ground at any time. In the leakage coaxial system that is currently employed, a plurality of the trains
20 share the wireless bandwidth that one leakage coaxial cable provides; however, in this embodiment, an efficiency of utilizing the bandwidth is enhanced as compared therewith because each train can use all of the bandwidths of the wireless interface of a continuous distribution
25 type.